<u>In the Claims</u>:

Please amend claims 1- 6 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of adjusting the intensity of light in an optical spectroscopy system from a light source that emits light having an expected average wavelength spectrum to maintain the reliability of a light signal from said light source, said method comprising the steps of:

modulating a first said light signal by an optical filter configured to weight the intensity of said first light signal by wavelength according to a regression vector that identifies a difference between said average spectrum and ~~the~~ <u>a</u> wavelength spectrum of said <u>first</u> light signal from said light source;

comparing the intensity of said modulated <u>first</u> light <u>signal</u> to an intensity expected if said wavelength spectrum of said first light signal equaled said average spectrum; and

adjusting a power input to said light source responsively to said ~~comparison~~ <u>comparing step</u> to a degree so that a subsequent said light signal defines a wavelength spectrum that is closer to said average spectrum, as measured by said modulating and comparing steps, than said wavelength spectrum of said first light signal.

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2. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, including collimating said <u>first</u> light ~~signals~~ <u>signal</u> prior to said modulating step.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 2, including bandpass filtering said <u>first</u> light ~~signals~~ <u>signal</u> prior to said modulating step to a wavelength range that at least includes an operative wavelength range of said optical filter.

4. (Currently Amended) For a light source in an optical spectroscopy system, a method of compensating for a change in a light signal, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a light source that outputs a light signal having a wavelength spectrum;

identifying a relationship between <u>intensity of said light signal and a difference between</u> ~~change in~~ said wavelength spectrum and an expected ~~average~~ wavelength spectrum of said light source; and

based on said relationship, modifying said wavelength spectrum in compensation for ~~said~~ <u>a</u> change <u>in said wavelength spectrum of said light signal</u>.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 4, <u>wherein said identifying step includes defining a regression vector that identifies a difference between an expected average</u>

wavelength spectrum of said light source and said wavelength spectrum of said light signal, and wherein said modifying step includes

modulating a first said light signal by an optical filter configured to weight the intensity of said first light signal by wavelength according to [[a]] said regression vector ~~that identifies a difference between said average spectrum and the wavelength spectrum of said first light signal~~;

comparing the intensity of said modulated first light signal to an intensity expected if said wavelength spectrum of first light signal equaled said average spectrum; and

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adjusting a power input to said light source responsively to said ~~comparison~~ comparing step to a degree so that a subsequent said light signal defines a wavelength spectrum that is closer to said average spectrum, as measured by said modulating and comparing steps, than said wavelength spectrum of said first light signal.

6. (Currently Amended) For a light source in an optical spectroscopy system, a method of compensating for change in a light signal, said method comprising the steps of:

applying a light signal from a light source to a measurement sample, wherein the entire wavelength range of said light signal applied to said measurement sample is simultaneously applied to said measurement sample;

defining a relationship between change in spectral shape over said wavelength ~~spectrum~~ range and change in input power to said light source; and

based on said relationship, relating a change in said spectral shape to a modification in said input power and so modifying said input power in compensation for said change in said spectral shape.